

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT TRADEMARK AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



GP 2161

In re Application of: JARMAN et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/862,917

EXAMINER:

FILING DATE: 5/22/01

ART UNIT:

TITLE: A UTILITY METERING SYSTEM INCORPORATING A
TRANSACTION AUTHORISATION SYSTEM

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 708P009508-US (PAR)

The Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

The following information is being disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

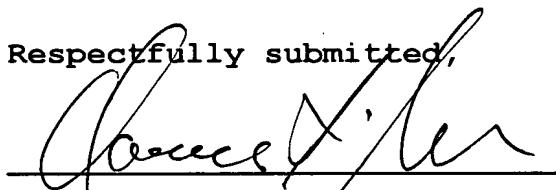
This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before receipt of a first Office Action on the above-identified patent application. Thus, a certification under 37 CFR 1.97 (e) or fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (p) is not required for the information herein to be considered.

The above-identified patent application has corresponding United Kingdom Patent Application Nos. GB 0121512.8 and GB 0120329.8. Applicants' attorney encloses a copy of a United Kingdom Search Report issued on the corresponding United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 0121512.8. The

Search Report cited United States Patent No. US 5,959,549 and PCT International Publication No. WO 00/58922. Applicants' attorney also encloses a copy of a United Kingdom Search Report issued on the corresponding United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 0120329.8. The Search Report cited United Kingdom Patent Application No. GB 2309086 A and Australian Patent Application No. AU 4135293 A.

Copies of the United Kingdom Search Reports and the cited references are enclosed together with PTO-Form 1449.

Respectfully submitted,



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3 Dec 01

Date

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, United Kingdom Search Reports, PTO-Form 1449 and references are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

December 3, 2001
Date

Debrah J. Clark
Name of Person Making Deposit



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0121512.8
Claims searched: 1-11

Examiner: Kalim Yasseen
Date of search: 26 October 2001

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK Cl (Ed.S): G4V (VAK, VMB, VMC, VMX)
Int Cl (Ed.7): G07F (7/00, 7/08, 7/10, 15/00)
Other: Online: EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X, E	WO 00/58922 A1 (BOS) a prepayment meter having means for remote crediting, GSM handset 6 number is associated with identity of meter, see whole document especially page 4 line 32 et seq	11
X	US 5 959 549 A (SYNESIOU) a communal metering service having a metering apparatus 34 in communication with a remote communication unit 22, the metering service for each customer has a unique identification number, see whole document especially column 5 line 47 et seq	1, 2, 11

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0120329.8
Claims searched: 1-14

Examiner: Kalim Yasseen
Date of search: 26 October 2001

Patents Act 1977

Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.S): G4H (HNEC, HNEE, HRBS, HRCS); G4V (VMA, VME, VMD, VMX)

Int Cl (Ed.7): G07F (15/00, 15/12); G01R (11/56, 11/57, 11/58, 21/133); G08C (17/00, 17/02)

Other: Online: EPODOC, JAPIO, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A	GB 2 309 086 A (STICKLAND) a utility meter for switching between peak and off-peak periods	
A	AU4135293 A (SHORTLAND) a meter which includes a communication module	

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.